

Application Serial No: 10/751,188
Responsive to the Office Action mailed on: March 12, 2007

IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, wherein the first to the fourth~~third~~ prisms have a substantially triangular prism form, and the beam splitter has substantially a hexahedral form that is formed with a bottom face, a top face and one of the side faces of each of the first to the fourth~~third~~ prisms.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, wherein the first wavelength, the second wavelength and the third wavelength respectively are three different wavelengths selected from four types including 750 nm to 850 nm, 600 nm to 700 nm, 400 nm to 500 nm and 300 nm to 400 nm.
5. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, wherein the first optical axis and the second optical axis intersect at substantially right angles, and the first optical axis and the third optical axis form an angle of substantially 180 degrees.
6. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, wherein a reflectance or a transmittance of each of the first to the fourth~~and second~~ optical films is changed in accordance with a wavelength of an incident light beam.
7. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, wherein the first optical film and the third optical film have has optical characteristics such that a light

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beam having a wavelength not shorter than a first threshold value is allowed to pass through and a light beam having a wavelength shorter than the first threshold value is reflected therefrom, and the second optical film and the fourth optical film have ~~has~~ optical characteristics such that a light beam having a wavelength not shorter than a second threshold value that is higher than the first threshold value is reflected therefrom and a light beam having a wavelength shorter than the second threshold value is allowed to pass through.

8. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, wherein a reflection film for reducing an amount of light at substantially a center portion of a light beam is formed on at least one of the first to the ~~fourth~~third prisms.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, wherein the first to the ~~fourth~~third prisms are made of at least one selected from the group consisting of glass, resin, and transparent ceramic.

12. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, further comprising a collimator lens that is provided for converting the light beams emitted from the first to the third light sources into parallel beams, wherein the collimator lens is provided so as to be attached to the ~~fourth~~second prism.

13. (Currently Amended) The optical head according to claim [[1]] 15, further comprising collimator lenses that are provided for converting the light beams emitted from the first to the third light sources into parallel beams, wherein the collimator lenses are disposed between the first light source and the first prism, between the second light source and the second prism and between the third light source and the third prism.

14. (Cancelled)

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15. (Currently Amended) An optical head, comprising:

- a first light source having a first wavelength and a first optical axis;
- a second light source having a second wavelength different from the first wavelength and a second optical axis intersecting with the first optical axis;
- a third light source having a third wavelength different from the first wavelength and the second wavelength and a third optical axis that is substantially parallel to the first optical axis; and
- a beam splitter provided for allowing light beams from the first light source, the second light source and the third light source to pass through or reflecting these light beams, the beam splitter being surrounded with the first light source, the second light source and the third light source,

wherein the beam splitter comprises:

- a first prism that is provided so that the light beam from the first light source enters therein;
- a second prism that is provided so that the light beam from the second light source enters therein;
- a third prism that is provided so that the light beam from the third light source enters therein;
- a first optical film that is formed between the first prism and the second prism; and
- a second optical film that is formed between the first prism and the third prism,

wherein only the first optical film intersects the first optical axis, only the second optical film intersects the third optical axis, and both the first optical film and the second optical film intersect the second optical axis, the first optical film has first optical characteristics for allowing the light beam from the first light source that enters into the first prism and has the first wavelength and the light beam from the second light source that enters into the second prism and has the second wavelength to pass through or for reflecting these light beams, and the second optical film has second optical characteristics, which are different from the first optical characteristics, for allowing the light beam from the first light source

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that enters into the first prism and has the first wavelength, the light beam from the second light source that enters into the second prism and has the second wavelength and the light beam from the third light source that enters into the third prism and has the third wavelength to pass through or for reflecting these light beams.

16. (New) The optical head according to claim 15, wherein the first optical film and the second optical film do not intersect with each other.